

Spokane SAFE KIDS Action Plan 2002

Mission Statement: to prevent unintentional death and injuries to children ages 14 and under from:

- Motor vehicle crashes
- Pedestrian injuries
- Bike crashes & Head Injuries
- Drownings
- Fires and burns
- Falls
- Poisonings
- Struck by or Against

Background Information:

National SAFE KIDS theme for 2002: “No Helmet? No Brains! Protecting Children from traumatic Brain Injury ” focus 8-12 year olds.

In the Spokane community, the most prevalent hospitalizations for unintentional injuries to children (ages 0-14) between 1995-1999 were:

- (1) Falls
- (2) Motor vehicle crashes and bike and sports injuries (ages 10-14)
- (3) Bicycle (rider)
- (4) Poisoning
- (5) Struck by or Against

Most deaths from 1995-1999 occurred from

- (1) Fires, burns and asphyxia
- (2) Motor vehicle crashes
- (3) Drowning
- (4) Pedestrian
- (5) Bicycle (Rider)

These statistics are the basis for our safety program development for the year 2002.

Source: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics, CHARS 03/01

Action Plan: During the end of year meeting in November 2001, coalition members identified the top injuries areas for concentration during 2002:

1. Motor Vehicle Crashes
2. Helmet Safety
3. Fire Safety
4. Pedestrian Safety

GOAL: Occupant Safety- Reduce the number of children killed or injured in motor vehicle crashes.

Objective: Increase the awareness of correct child safety seat, seat belt and air bag use by providing the professional instruction/training required and through identified programs/events.

Tactics:

1. Monthly Car Seat Check Ups
2. Ongoing informational sessions for parents and caregivers as requested.

GOAL: Helmet Safety – Reduce the number of wheel-related injuries and death to children.

Objective: Increase the awareness of the appropriate helmet usage and through education and programs.

Tactics:

1. Partner with East Region Emergency Medical Services Injury Prevention & Public Education program to distribute helmets throughout nine county area.
2. Traffic Safety Train-the Trainer classes in March
3. Head Smart Campaign – McDonald coupons for ice-cream cones distributed by law enforcement, fire fighters, and park rangers to kids found wearing helmets.
4. Develop a helmet survey to gather data regarding usage, helmet safety knowledge and attitudes.

GOAL: Pedestrian Safety – Reduce the motor vehicle and pedestrian related- injuries and death to children.

Objective: Increase the awareness of the pedestrian issues and safety skills through education and programs.

Tactics:

1. Spokane County Traffic Safety Commission to lead Pedestrian Safety Week, April 8-15.
The week's activities include a poster contest.
2. Partner w/community agencies to conduct the annual *Walk this Way – International Walk Your Child to School* event.
3. Ongoing Pedestrian Bee presentations in preschool through 2nd grade classrooms as requested.

GOAL: Fire Safety – Reduce the number of children injured by burns and scalds.

Objective: Increase the awareness of fire safety through education and school based programs.

- Tactics:**
1. Gather localized and analyze fire data
 2. Spokane Fire Department (SFD) lead grant application request to the Inland Empire Chiefs Association to gain funding for the 14 dozen lithium-battery detectors. SFD will target 1-3 elementary schools, families and seniors for detector distribution.
 3. Spokane School District #81 to distribute the parent survey/quiz and Fire-Stoppers brochure for preschool parents and providers of every child enrolled in district's preschool programs.

GOAL: Water Safety – reduce the number of children who die or suffer injuries or disabilities from drowning incidents.

Objective: To increase the awareness of using life jackets, pool and water safety and boating safety through education.

Tactics: Support the efforts of the Inland Northwest Drowning Prevention Coalition to heighten awareness of drowning issue and safety measures.